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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/669,594	09/26/2000	Prasad Raje	004426.P001	5001

7590 11/21/2002

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EXAMINER

BASHORE, WILLIAM L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/669,594

Applicant(s)

RAJE, PRASAD

Examiner

William L. Bashore

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 102-125 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 102-125 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: RCE and Amendment, both filed 9/3/2002, to the original application filed 9/26/2000, with provisional filing date of 9/30/1999. IDS filed 5/4/2001.
2. The rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 36, 43-44, 57-59, 76-80, 89 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
3. The rejection of claims 4-5, 7-35, 37-38, 45-57, 60-73, 81-88, 90-101 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang and Brandt, has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
4. Claims 102-125 are pending. Claims 1-101 have been canceled. Claims 102-125 have been added. Claims 102, 110, 118 are independent claims.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

5. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/3/2002 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 102-107, 110-115, 118-123 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (hereinafter Wang), U.S. Patent No. 5,875,332 issued February 1999.

In regard to independent claim 1, Wang teaches an HTML input form created by a developer, said HTML input form typically comprising a set of input field(s) with format attributes within its source code describing placement of fields on said form, said form provided by the developer to a server (Wang column 2 lines 29-31; compare with claim 102 *“a first author creating a first form....constituting a format specification of the first form”*, and *“a first server presenting a first....to provide the first form to the first server”*).

Wang teaches allowing a user to configure a set of actions for submission (Wang column 4 lines 64-67; compare with claim 1 *“allowing said user to configure a set of actions to be performed in processing a submission of said form, comprising:”*).

Wang teaches parsing a form to extract form elements along with associated logic (Wang column 4 lines 54-67, column 5 lines 1-10; compare with claim 102 *“the first server parsing the first form provided by the first configurer to extract format specification information of the first form”*).

Wang teaches configuring a set of functions (procedure) submitted to a builder, associated with an input form (Wang column 2 lines 29-32, column 4 lines 41-49; compare with claim 102 *“...being used by the first configurer to configure a set of functions to be performed by the first server in processing submissions of the first form....in the submissions of the first form”*).

Wang does not specifically teach presenting to a user a first and second interface for a user to input specification. However, this limitation would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Wang, because Wang teaches that a developer need only to write an input form and a stored procedure (Wang column 2 lines 29-33; compare with claim 102 *“a first user*

interface”, and “*a second user interface*”), suggesting the creation of said form and procedure by a user via an interface, and providing the advantage of an interface to create and submit necessary items.

- creation of a CGI module for obtaining specification for said set of actions (Wang column 1 lines 45-52; compare with claim 1 “*obtaining specification for said set of actions from said user*”).

- customization of a CGI module adapted to a configuration structure of a stored procedure (Wang column 1 lines 44-45, column 4 lines 40-45; compare with claim 1 “*generating a configuration structure.....actions to be performed.*”).

In regard to dependent claim 103, Wang teaches generation of a customized CGI program (Wang column 2 lines 30-35; compare with claim 103). Wang teaches web access to databases via CGI interfaces (Wang column 1 lines 13-17; compare with claim 3). Wang teaches a customized CGI module consistent with a stored procedure and an input stream (Wang column 2 lines 29-38; compare with claim 6).

In regard to dependent claims 104-106, Wang teaches creation and submission of stored procedures by a developer, and input streams utilizing forms (Wang column 2 lines 22-39; compare with claims 104- 106).

In regard to dependent claim 107, Wang teaches a customized CGI module consistent with a stored procedure and an input stream (Wang column 2 lines 29-38).

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In regard to claims 110-115, claims 110-115 reflect the system comprising computer readable instructions used for performing the methods as claimed in claims 102-107, respectively, and are rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to claims 118-123, claims 118-123 reflect the computer readable medium comprising computer readable instructions used for performing the methods as claimed in claims 102-107, respectively, and are rejected along the same rationale.

8. Claims 108-109, 116-117, 124-125 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (hereinafter Wang), U.S. Patent No. 5,875,332 issued February 1999, in view of Brandt et al. (hereinafter Brandt), U.S. Patent No. 5,892,905 issued April 1999.

In regard to dependent claims 108-109, Wang does not specifically teach keeping track of changes. However, Brandt teaches keeping track of changes (Brandt column 16 lines 20-23). Brandt also teaches use of timestamps for synchronization (Brandt column 21 lines 60-63; compare with claims 108-109). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Brandt to Wang, because of Brandt's taught advantage of current tracking, so as to provide a user of Wang a way to keep changes current and updated.

In regard to dependent claims 116-117, claims 116-117 reflect the system comprising computer readable instructions used for performing the methods as claimed in claims 108-109, respectively, and are rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to claims 124-125, claims 124-125 reflect the computer readable medium comprising computer readable instructions used for performing the methods as claimed in claims 108-109, respectively, and are rejected along the same rationale.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 9/3/2002 have been fully and carefully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues on pages 14-15 of the Amendment that Wang does not teach the claimed limitations regarding a user interface to allow a person to configure a set of functions.... that may be performed by another person (e.g. a form author), etc. The examiner is interpreting "*a first author*", and "*a first configurer*" (as presently claimed), as the same person. The claims do not preclude the examiner from this interpretation, since an author can also configure a form. Wang teaches creation/submission of an HTML input form, and a set of procedure functions associated with said form.

Although Wang teach that a stored procedure can already be written, the claims do not limit creation of its final set of functions using pre-existing functions.

Applicant's arguments regarding the Brandt reference are currently moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

10. **Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to disclosure.**

Wright, Jr.	U.S. Patent No. 5,704,029	issued	12/1997
Denier	U.S. Patent No. 5,784,562	issued	07/1998

Thistlewaite, Paul et al, Active FORMs, Computer Networks & ISDN Systems, Amsterdam, 1996, Volume 28, Issue 7-10, start page 1355.

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11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Bashore whose telephone number is (703) 308-5807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 11:30 AM to 8:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

12. Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

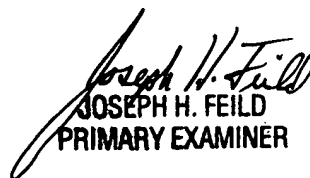
(703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or:

(703) 746-7238 (for after-final communications)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

William L. Bashore
11/14/2002


JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER